

ABSTRACT

POWER ELECTRONIC CONVERTER SYSTEM

A converter system is described having an AC-to-DC first converter stage connectable to an AC supply and operative to produce a DC output on a DC link and a DC-to-AC second converter stage directly connected to the DC link and producing an AC output for driving an AC load at a frequency and amplitude that may differ from the frequency and amplitude of the input AC supply. In the invention, the first converter stage comprises a bridge of bi-directional electronic switching elements connected between the input AC supply and the DC link and control means for activating the electronic switching elements of the bridge with variable phase relative to the input AC supply in order to vary the DC output on the DC link to the second converter stage.